

September 20, 2023

The governing body of the City of Seneca met in regular session September 20, 2023 at 7:30 p.m., in the council room, located at 531 Main Street, Seneca, Kansas. Present were Mayor Joe Mitchell and council members Jim Mitchell, Joe Schmelzle, Steve Bennett, and Alice Lackey. Mike Stallbaumer and Ray Shinn were absent. Also present were Steve Brooks, City Attorney Martin Mishler, Brian Rusche, Jerry Leuthold, Bo Higgins, BJ Baysinger, Robert Wolfgang, Matt Diehl, and Michele Spring.

Steve Bennett made a motion to accept the amended agenda to include ordinance and resolution item number 2 to consider the BZA recommendation. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

Jim Mitchell made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held September 6, 2023. The motion was seconded by Steve Bennett. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

Joe Schmelzle made a motion to approve Appropriation Ordinance Number 1454. The motion was seconded by Steve Bennett. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

Jim Mitchell made a motion to approve Ordinance Number 1433 An Ordinance changing the zoning classification of certain real property in the City of Seneca. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

Jim Mitchell made a motion to approve the Hay Lease Agreements for the 2024 & 2025 years for the Maxwell Springs and Airport Properties. At the September 6, 2023 council meeting Mayor Mitchell opened hay bids for the properties. The high bidder for the airport property was Cole Deters at \$2000 per year for two years. The high bidder for the Maxwell Spring's property was Elijah Sudbeck at \$1200 per year for 2 years. The motion was seconded by Steve Bennett. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

Mayor Mitchell opened bids for demolition of the 213 N. 1st Street property. The lone bid received of three local excavation companies was from BAR Excavation, LLC in the amount of \$9115. Included in BAR Excavation, LLC bid was: tear down house; load out; find and cap sewer; remove concrete and trees; load and pack fill; haul away scrap; haul fill back in; clean up scrap; level pack fill. Joe Schmelzle made a motion to accept the bid from BAR Excavation, LLC in the amount of \$9115. The motion was seconded by Steve Bennett. All present voted yes. Motion carried. Mayor Mitchell signed the bid.

Bo Higgins and BJ Baysinger with Advanced Microbial Solutions, LLC (AMS) presented their sludge removal process. Instead of removing sludge AMS uses non-pathogenic microbes at the wastewater site for production and feeding process. AMS has a pay on performance agreement, so the city would only be responsible for the sludge removed.

At 8:27 p.m., Jim Mitchell made a motion to go into executive session for non-elected personnel for 10 minutes until 8:37 p.m. to include the governing body and Steve with action to be taken. The motion was seconded by Steve Bennett. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

At 8:37 p.m. the meeting reopened.

Jim Mitchell made a motion to approve Tracy Rusche as Assistant City Clerk/Court Clerk at \$20.70 per hour starting October 9, 2023. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

Joe Schmelzle made a motion to approve Andrea Beyer as Community Development Officer at \$19.21 per hour starting October 16, 2023. The motion was seconded by Steve Bennett. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

At 8:40 p.m., Jim Mitchell made a motion to enter into executive session for 20 minutes until 9:00 p.m. for attorney-client privilege to include the governing body, Steve, Martin, and Brian with no action to be taken. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

At 9:00 p.m., Jim Mitchell made a motion to extend executive session for 10 more minutes until 9:10 p.m. for attorney-client privilege to include the governing body, Steve, Martin, and Brian. The motion was seconded by Steve Bennett. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

At 9:11 p.m. the meeting reconvened.

Alice Lackey announced her resignation as Ward 2 Council Person effective September 21, 2023 leaving an opening on the council.

Alice Lackey made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Jim Mitchell. All voted yes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

Michele Spring
City Clerk